

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3154
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
PROMOTION OF COIR BOARD
V. VETRISILVAN

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Coir Board for the maximum utilization of coir pith;
- (b) whether the Coir Board has received any requests from public representatives of Tamil Nadu to set up a coir pith based industry at Krishnagiri and Dharamapuri districts of Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) if so the reaction of Coir Board in that regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, SRI SANGHPRIA GAUTAM)

(a): The Coir Board has taken several steps to maximise the utilization of coir pith. These inter-alia include :

- i) extending financial assistance for setting up of coir processing units including coir pith procession units;
- ii) display of coir pith products in exhibitions in India and abroad;
- iii) a testing laboratory at Pollachi (TN) has been set up where coir pith can be tested and certificate obtained;
- iv) field demonstration for converting coir pith into organic manure;
- v) issuance of quality certificates after verifying various parameters of coir pith products.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. But the Coir Board does not set up coir pith based industries on its own. It only supports and facilitates setting up of coir pith based industries in the manner stated at (a) above. The applications received have been forwarded to the Director of Industries & Commerce, Government of Tamil Nadu for necessary action.